

**Open Forum 24 (1977)**

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**Harold Wilson:**

I had no support whatsoever from the Ministry of Education whether departmentally or ministerially, only opposition and from the Treasury. And that really remained true until Ted Short who himself had studied externally became the Minister in 1968 but by that time we were over the hump and the thing was going ahead except for the efforts of the Chancellor every year to cancel it to save money. But then, they set up a departmental working party which was just about to produce a report to say that it wasn't feasible, it wouldn't work, it wasn't necessary and why have it anyway, it would cost too much. And so at that point I wound up the working party, seem to remember something about Cromwell you know - "You have been too long for any good you can do, in the name of God go" - or whatever it was.